

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00912 212210Z

ACTION EB-07

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TAGS: AID, MZ, UK

SUBJECT: UK ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE

1. SUMMARY: DURING RECENT VISIT OF A UK AID TEAM TO MOZAMBIQUE, THE UK SIGNED THE 10 MILLION POUND DEVELOPMENT LOAN OFFERED TO THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT (GPRM) IN 1976, CONFIRMED THE OFFER OF A SECOND 5 MILLION-POUND PROGRAM LOAN MADE BY MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT HART TO GPRM MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT DOS SANTOS FOLLOWING THE RECENTLY-CONCLUDED UN SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON AID TO MOZAMBIQUE, AND SIGNED AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS PROVIDING FOR A GRANT OF 5,000 TONS OF WHEAT UNDER THE TERMS OF A FOOD AID CONVENTION OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. UK RANKS BEHIND ONLY SWEDEN AND PRG AS DEVELOPMENT AID DONORS TO MOZAMBIQUE. SINCE MOZAMBIQUE'S INDEPENDENCE, UK HAS GIVEN 20 MILLION POUNDS IN INTEREST-FREE LOANS, 5,000 TONS OF WHEAT, AND 110, 000 DOLLARS IN FLOOD RELIEF ASSISTANCE. GPRM IS PLEASED WITH UK AID AND GAVE PROMINENT PUBLICITY TO THE UK AID TEAM'S VISIT. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00912 212210Z

2. A TWO-MAN UK AID TEAM VISITED MOZAMBIQUE THE WEEK OF JULY 10 TO 15. JOINED BY UK AMBASSADOR LEWEN, THE TEAM HELD AID TALKS WITH A GPRM DELEGATION HEADED BY JOAO COSME, NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED ON CONCLUSION OF TALKS ON JULY 15. THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED:
--THE SIGNING OF THE 10 MILLION POUND DEVELOPMENT LOAN

OFFERED TO THE GPRM IN 1976. ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR LEWEN, THE LOAN IS INTEREST FREE, REPAYABLE IN 25 YEARS, THE FIRST PAYMENT DUE IN 1985. ONE OF THE PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED BY THE LOAN WILL BE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A POWER STATION IN QUELIMANE. THE BALANCE OF THE LOAN WILL PROBABLY BE USED TO FUND OTHER POWER STATIONS AND RURAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

---THE CONFIRMATION OF THE OFFER OF A SECOND 5 MILLION-POUND PROGRAM LOAN MADE BY JUDITH HART, MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, TO MARCELINO DOS SANTOS, MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, FOLLOWING THE JUNE 1977 UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON AID TO MOZAMBIQUE. THE LOAN, WHICH BEARS THE SAME TERMS AS THE ABOVE 10 MILLION-POUND DEVELOPMENT LOAN, IS TO BE USED TO PURCHASE BRITISH GOODS, PROBABLY SPARE PARTS FOR INDUSTRY.

---THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES PROVIDING FOR A GRANT OF 5,000 TONS OF WHEAT TO MOZAMBIQUE, UNDER THE UK-'S PROGRAM OF PARTICIPATION IN THE FOOD AID CONVENTION OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY COMMUNITY.

3. AMBASSADOR LEWEN STATES THAT WITH THE ABOVE AID OFFERS, UK AID TO MOZAMBIQUE SINCE INDEPENDENCE INCLUDES:

10 MILLION POUNDS IN DEVELOPMENT LOANS (PARA 2 ABOVE)

-10 MILLION POUNDS IN PROGRAM LOAN (A 5 MILLION PROGRAM LOAN SIGNED IN JULY 1976 AND PARA 2 ABOVE)

-5,000 TONS OF WHEAT (PARA 2 ABOVE)

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PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00912 212210Z

-110,000 DOLLARS VALUE OF FOOD, BLANKETS AND MEDICINES PLUS 50 TENTS (VALUE UNKNOWN) FOR FLOOD RELIEF (DONATED IN SPRING OF 1977)

--MINIMAL FUNDING OF SEVERAL UK TECHNICIANS

4. THE LAST REPORT OF THE JOINT COORDINATOR OF THE UN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE (UN DOCUMENT A/32/96 OF JUNE 9, 1977) LISTS THE 10 MILLION-POUND DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND THE 1976 FIVE MILLION-POUND PROGRAM LOAN AS UK CONTRIBUTIONS TO MOZAMBIQUE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 386 (1976). AMBASSADOR LEWEN THINKS THAT THE UK'S SECOND OFFER OF A 5 MILLION-POUND PROGRAM LOAN WILL BE VIEWED BY THE UN AS A CONTRIBUTION TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 411 OF JUNE 30, 1977.

5. COMMENT: THE UK IS ONE OF MOZAMBIQUE'S LARGEST DEVELOPMENT AID DONORS, RANKING BEHIND ONLY SWEDEN AND THE PRC IN TOTAL AMOUNT OF AID OFFERED. LEWEN REPORTS THAT THE MOZAMBIQANS ARE PLEASED WITH THE AMOUNTS AND TERMS OF UK AID. THE PROMINENT AND FAVORABLE FRONT-PAGE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE UK AID TEAM'S VISIT WOULD BEEN TO BEAR THIS OUT.

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